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Israel Putnam

Ye Independent Man in Politics.

In politics the independant man
Is oftentimes a great sham;
He is proud of his independence—so bold—
He would not be of the school that is old.
The men of the old school were positive, and took their side,
They did not attempt at one and the same time two horses to ride;
Or, trying to ride a horse, so to appear,
While they really were riding a jackass it was clear.
Then the independent with his haughty air
Endeavors to make the world believe that he is more wise and fair—
More fair in politics than the other man;
How proud is he of his independent (?) stand.
From his point of view one would think
That the rest of the world stood on the brink—
On the brink of destruction—where to stand
Was most demoralizing to all that was grand.
Independence! yes, a grand word
As was ever uttered or heard;
That is, good when legitimately used,
But to use to gain some low point, it is often abused.
As in politics it is used to hoodwink,
And is too often successful, for the people do not think
Of the end to which it would lead; they think only of the word,
They do not think of the cause that is slurred.
They do not understand the influence that is vile,
Whereby they are led by some foreign force the while,
To go against their own interest, their own good,
And against all that leads to the control that would
Shut them mercilessly out in the cold,
And drive them away from their own grand fold!—
The fold that is their right and home,
Drive them out to live with the pauper and his bone!
And let in the wares by paupers made,
Let the pauper wares enter our free soil, not to be stayed—
Stayed by the tariff wall so high,
That the paupers of Europe cannot get by.
Independence! these men would us teach
That here was an opportunity to reach

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High—the high moral mark
That shall float our grand bark.
For altruism these men speak
In lofty tones—tones that would keep,
They say, our lofty code high—
Yes high, for the swine is ever nigh.
Cast not your pearls before swine,
Do not let weeds about your household entwine.
Some would remove our grand walls,
In whole or in part, and reject the calls
That their own people make;
Love the outside world and your own forsake.
Some would remove the wall only in part,
And thereby give the pauper here a start.
How for the pauper they do plea!
When they should know that for such to be,
Would only let in the wolf to many a door—
Let him in on the ground floor.
No, let the Baron Trust of Europe care take
Of their own, and not inroads make
Into our sacred halls, built with such care,
Whereby the patriots of the new world have good fare.
Destroy this! Yes, these men say, in the name of independence grand
Those independent (!) men would our ship strand.
May the day be far distant when such shall be
To those who here have established homes for the free!
Keep the pauper out,
No longer in his interest shout
Independence! True independence should be
That which builds up and maintains the home for the free.
Then do not forget that this cry so bold
Is not in the interest of the true fold;
It is a sly element to weaken our lines,
And with the Baron cry of Europe it chimes.
To dupe the unwary, and through their vote to gain
That which in due time shall only bring them pain;
Let the wall stand, the wall that we have raised,
In its mighty strength let it stand, the Lord be praised!

ISAAC P. NOYES.

August 25, 1906.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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